

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
FEBRUARY 20, 1998

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, February 20, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. in room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Yvonne Brown; Sara Fox; Joanna Heidel; Billy Hewes; Henry Hudspeth; John Junkin, II; Patricia Puckett; William Seal; and George Walker.

Member absent: Hazel Terry.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Deborah Gilbert, Tracy Heggins, Sandra Lucas, Danny Seal, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Evelyn Webb, and Frankie Walton White.

Guest in attendance: Linda Stribling representing Elite Modular Structures and Pat Vanderloo a USM doctoral student.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:05 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

The invocation was given by Yvonne Brown.

Acknowledgments/Introductions

Mr. Walker recognized Ms. Pat Vanderloo a doctoral student at the University of Southern Mississippi. Ms. Vanderloo will be completing a comparative study on the progress of students with a high school diploma versus students who received a GED who are enrolled in Mississippi's community and junior colleges.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by John Junkin, seconded by William Seal, the Board approved the minutes of the January 15 and 16, 1998, meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Agenda

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the inclusion of an amended Finance Committee agenda.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Olon Ray gave an update on legislation dealing with the establishment of Advanced Technology Centers. Dr. Ray and SBCJC staff attended a meeting where IHL reported findings

SBCJC Minutes: February 20, 1998

of their study to members of the Legislature. A meeting was held by Dr. Horace Fleming, President of the University of Southern Mississippi, in which representatives from the southern area community and junior colleges were invited to participate in a discussion about the establishment of an Advanced Technology Center. Following the meeting a report has come forward proposing to locate a center on property owned by USM.

Dr. Ray also gave an update on Legislation related to the Gulf Coast Study performed by IHL regarding the establishment of a university on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Dr. Ray covered language in Senate Bill 2764 that would allow universities to offer lower level courses at the Gulf Coast Center without the approval of the SBCJC. The legislation also includes funding language that would allow off-campus university centers to receive funding commensurate to that of on-campus education. Dr. Ray expressed his concerns related to duplication of services and other issues outlined in the legislation.

Dr. Ray gave an overview of the Creating Futures Through Technology Conference held on February 3 and 4, 1998, jointly sponsored by the SBCJC, IHL, and Hinds Community College. Of the 244 people attending the conference 48% were community and junior college personnel.

Dr. Ray also reported on the Ed-Tech luncheon held on February 28, 1998, where Dr. Robert Ballard, the scientist who discovered the wreck of the Titanic, was the guest speaker. Dr. Ballard complimented the State of Mississippi for its wise investment in its use of technology in the public sector. SBCJC members Yvonne Brown and Joanna Heidel also attended the luncheon.

Dr. Ray then shared that he planned to be at Northwest Mississippi Community College on February 27, 1998. The out-of-town trip is the only one currently scheduled between now and the March Board meeting.

Dr. Ray reminded Board members of the upcoming Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Team Recognition Luncheon scheduled for March 18, 1998. All SBCJC members are invited to attend.

Dr. Ray also welcomed Ms. Pat Vanderloo, USM doctoral student, who will be working with the SBCJC office in researching how GED graduates fair as they enter community and junior college programs.

REPORTS/ACTION

MACJC Report

Dr. Clyde Muse reported on the following items discussed at the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College's meeting on January 27, 1998:

Dr. Raleigh Byars of the Mississippi Small Business Development Center, discussed the proposal for a three year pilot project to provide New Business Ventures with start up business counseling, needed information, technical assistance, small business management training, and other requested assistance or business services, and follow-

SBCJC Minutes: February 20, 1998

on services. He also recognized winners the SBDC awards for 1997 as follows: SBDC of the Year - Pearl River Community College; SBDC Director/Counselor - Mr. Bob Russ, Copiah-Lincoln Community College; SBDC Director/Trainer - Mr. Ronnie Westbrook, East Central Community College; and SBDC Counselor - Jackson State University.

Dr. Olon Ray updated the MACJC on the activities of the SBCJC, and discussed proposed legislative language changes related to enrollment audits. The MACJC referred the proposed changes to the SBCJC Funding and Formula Study Committee for their review and recommendation. Dr. Ray also presented proposed legislative language related to the Mississippi Pre-paid Affordable College Tuition Program (MPACT).

The presidents approved a recommendation that each community and junior college provide \$1,000 to help support PTK All-State Academic Scholarship Program. The presidents also approved a recommendation that each college having a 1998 top ten PTK student winner, provide that student with a \$1,000 scholarship.

The Association also approved a request from the MACJC Choral Directors for a special assessment of \$45 per college to cover the expenses of inviting Dr. Pat Patton to conduct the all-state choir during the Mississippi Choral Directors Association convention in March.

The Association discussed recommendations from the Committee to Study Financial Aid for Athletes with regard to what should be included in the \$600 limit above the cost of room, board and tuition, as stated in the MACJC handbook. Mr. Gwynn Young, Chairman of the MACJC Athletic Director's Association then presented proposed athletic rule changes for the president's review and action.

Dr. Muse led the Association in a review of legislation that could impact community and junior colleges choosing positions of support, opposition, or no position.

Finance Report

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for February 28, 1998, from funds 4080 and 4110 in the amount of \$1,950,009.06 (Exhibit A).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of GED training videotapes from the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television (ETV) in the amount of \$29,190 (Exhibit B).

Mr. Seal presented the following reports which did not require action but were offered for the Board's review:

- House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Recommendations -
Support and Administration for FY 1999 (Exhibit C)
- Bimonthly Capital Improvement Projects (Exhibit D)
- Current Capital Improvement Projects by Source of Funding -

SBCJC Minutes: February 20, 1998

January 1998 (Exhibit E)
Financial Statements for Funds 2291, 3291, and 4300 (Exhibit F).

Program Committee

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the "fast track" Technical Certificate program at the Rankin Campus, Jackson Campus - Academic/Technical Center, and Raymond Campus of Hinds Community College.

Funding and Formula Committee

Deborah Gilbert reported on a meeting of the Funding and Formula Organizational Committee held on February 19, 1998. The committee reviewed information collected from the registrars of the colleges related to semester credit hours at the six week audit point, and at the semester's end counting only semester hours generated by grades given from A to F. Also, financial information on vocational funding including equipment, and clock hours on non-credit courses was collected for review. The committee reviewed the information and formulated a plan for setting future parameters by completing comparative figures for possible formula revisions. The next meeting of the Organizational Committee is set for March 19, 1998, at 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Junkin reported that a meeting of the Funding and Formula Study Committee will be held via the CCN on Monday, February 23, 1998, at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Junkin invited all Board members to attend.

Workforce Education Report

Mr. Walker updated Board members on the activities of the State Workforce Development Council (SWDC). The SWDC appointed a committee to examine the issue of Advanced Technology Centers. The committee chaired by Bobby Chain, has presented a recommendation that would curtail the establishment of centers throughout the state and promote the possibility of establishing one center in a strategic area. This and other recommendations would assure that the center would indeed be an advanced technology center and not a replication of the community and junior college's Skill/Tech and Career Centers.

The Education Committee of the SWDC is continuing in its efforts to explore ways in which leaders of the business community might work with the State Department of Education and local school districts to ensure that students graduating are prepared in skills that would allow them to be successful members of Mississippi's workforce.

The SWDC has adopted a resolution giving their full support to the JASON Project. The project is a real time visual application of science, math and technology. The project is currently available in the Gulf Coast area, and if funding is identified, will be available through Coahoma Community College.

SBCJC Minutes: February 20, 1998

Mr. Walker also reported that resolutions have been adopted by the SWDC for presentation to the Governor and members of the State Legislature, commending them for their efforts to assist the business community in continuing to bring Mississippi to new levels of economic achievement.

At Mr. Walker's request, Deborah Gilbert outlined the amount of requested increased funding for workforce training versus the amounts of proposed funding in the Senate and House Appropriations bills.

Mr. Walker gave a report on the GIS Remote Sensing Project in which Coahoma Community College, Northwest Mississippi Community College, and Mississippi Delta Community College will participate.

Dr. Phil Pepper, Mississippi State Economist, has called a meeting of educational leaders of the state with regard to raising the per capita income of individuals in Mississippi. Mr. Walker has been invited to attend.

Dr. Clyde Muse stated that he believed that there has been significant progress in the area of workforce development and workforce education. He expressed his appreciation to the SBCJC and the SWDC for their efforts to further workforce training.

*The meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m.

**The meeting reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

***John Junkin left the meeting.

Legislative Report

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher reviewed the status of House and Senate legislative bills that affect the community and junior colleges.

Dr. Stonecypher also distributed a copy of the 1997 Mississippi Public Education Selected Statistics prepared by the Mississippi Department of Education (Exhibit G).

Proprietary School and College Report

Mr. Danny Seal updated SBCJC members on the actions of the Commission on Proprietary School and College Registration during their December 18, 1997, and February 19, 1998, meetings (Exhibit H). Mr. Seal stated that the Commission is looking forward to working with SBCJC liaison, Mrs. Sara Fox. Mr. Seal also reported that all CPSCR complaints for the fiscal year 1997 have been closed.

Accountability Performance Measures

Dr. Evelyn Webb distributed a final report on the fiscal year 1998 Accountability Performance Measures (Exhibit I). These nine non-financial performance measures are included in the

SBCJC Minutes: February 20, 1998

community and junior college appropriations bill. SBCJC staff has requested that these measures stay the same for the next fiscal year in order to secure information for comparative analysis.

Appointment to MS Higher Education Assistance Corp

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to appoint to the Mississippi Higher Education Assistance Corporation, Dr. Howell Garner to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Billy Thames, and to approve the reappointment of Dr. Vivian Presley for an additional two year term.

Purchase of Mobile Learning Labs

Dr. Olon Ray introduced Mrs. Linda Stribling with Elite Modular Structures. Mrs. Stribling addressed the Board with regard to the bidding of thirteen mobile learning labs. Mrs. Stribling raised questions pertaining to whether the labs are considered "construction projects" or "equipment". Construction projects would require a contractor's certificates of responsibility noted on the bidding envelope. Mrs. Stribling also questioned the use of out-of-state vendors and their liability and service of the mobile units.

Dr. Ray recommended that the bids for the thirteen mobile learning lab units be awarded to Modular Technologies, Inc., which has been determined to be the lowest and best bidder, and has complied with applicable state purchasing laws covering the purchase of equipment. A copy of the complete recommendation, background information, and a bid tabulation of all responding vendors is attached (Exhibit J). On a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of thirteen mobile learning labs from Modular Technologies, Inc., in the amount of \$241,020.

Fall 1997 Enrollment Report/1996-97 Statistical Data

Dr. Larry Day distributed copies of the Fall 1997 Enrollment Report and the 1996-97 Statistical Data booklet for the Board's review. Chairman Walker and the Board commended staff for the professional appearance and the compilation of useful data contained in the reports. Dr. Day commended Mrs. Elizabeth Ducksworth, SBCJC Accounting Assistant, for her work in designing the cover and preparing the documents.

Dr. Day also distributed a copy of the SBCJC 1998 Calendar of Events.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Patricia Puckett, seconded by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to approve a request for reimbursement of travel expenses as follows:

SBCJC Minutes: February 20, 1998

George Walker for attending a SBCJC Funding and Formula Committee meeting February 23, and a meeting with State Economist, Phil Pepper on February 25, 1998.

John Junkin for attending a SBCJC Funding and Formula Committee Meeting on February 23, 1998.

Joanna Heidel for attending a LBO hearing on January 19, the Ed-Tech Luncheon on January 28, and the MACJC Legislative Luncheon on February 5, 1998.

Henry Hudspeth for attending the MACJC Legislative Luncheon on February 5, 1998.

William Seal for attending a District Council meeting on January 29, and a SBCJC Funding and Formula Committee meeting on February 23, 1998.

The Board also approved reimbursement for attending the Phi Theta Kappa All-State Academic Recognition Luncheon for all SBCJC members.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Walker reminded Board members that the election of SBCJC officers will be held at the March 1998 meeting.

Patricia Puckett voiced her appreciation for the expressions of concerns with regard to her father's illness.

EdNet Report

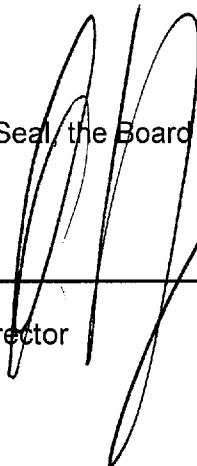
Yvonne Brown distributed a copy of a memorandum prepared after an EdNet Board of Directors meeting, February 9, 1998, listing highlights of the meeting (Exhibit K).

Dr. Ray reported that Pearl River Community College President, Dr. Ted Alexander, is still in serious condition but continues to improve from injuries sustained in a recent automobile accident.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m.


George Walker, Chairman


Olon E. Ray
Executive Director